



COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA

DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES

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Virginia Department of Social Services passes data reliability audit

-- State will be eligible for child support incentives --

Richmond – The Virginia Department of Social Services (VDSS) Division of Child Support Enforcement (DCSE) has successfully passed the federal data reliability audit required to become eligible for performance-based incentives. The audit must be passed with an efficiency rate of 95 percent or greater.

“This is the sixth year in a row that we have excelled in passing this audit,” said VDSS Commissioner Anthony Conyers Jr. “This shows that we are meeting our goal of providing the most accurate and timely collection and distribution of child support funds every single day for the children in the Commonwealth.”

The federal audit involves a sampling of cases reported on the annual federal performance report. The Data Reliability Audit reviews accuracy and reliability of data reported on the federal report.

“Through our continued successes in passing these audits, parents in Virginia can be assured that they have a tremendously accurate and efficient child support system in place to provide for children,” said DCSE Director Nick Young.

Following the past six audits, the state has received more than \$60 million in federal incentive awards, which have been reinvested into child support enforcement efforts. If incentive awards are received for these audit results, Young said the funds again will be reinvested into child support enforcement efforts.

Nearly 25 percent of all children in Virginia rely on child support payments for their financial stability.

“Collecting child support is important to a child’s financial stability, but studies also have shown that parents who pay support are more likely to be involved in their children’s lives,” Conyers added. “That’s a tremendous benefit to the child in terms of emotional well-being and success in later life.”

For more information on child support enforcement, as well as a list of “Most Wanted” evaders, log on to the VDSS Web site at: www.dss.state.va.us/family/dcse.html.

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